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LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Public Law 483

H.R. 7236

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INDEX AND SUMMARY OF PUBLIC LAW 483

July 11, 1955	Rep. Johnson of Wisconsin introduced H. R. 7236. Referred to House Committee on Agriculture.
July 13, 1955	House Committee ordered H. R. 7236 reported.
July 18, 1955	House Committee reported H. R. 7236 without amendment. House Report 1199.
July 30, 1955	House passed H. R. 7236 without amendment.
August 1, 1955	H. R. 7236 referred to Senate Committee on Agriculture and Forestry.
March 21, 1956	Senate Committee ordered reported without amendment.
March 22, 1956	Senate Committee reported without amendment. Senate Report 1704.
March 26, 1956	Senate passed without amendment.
April 6, 1956	Approved: Public Law 483 - 84th Congress.

DIGEST OF PUBLIC LAW 483

ACP PAYMENTS FOR WATER CONSERVATION. Amends the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act so as to remove the reference to arid and semi-arid sections in authorizing payment for the treatment of land with respect to water conservation and beneficial use of water on individual farms, including measures to prevent run-off, the building of check dams and ponds, and facilities for applying water to land.

84TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 7236

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 11, 1955

Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

To amend section 8 (b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act with respect to water conservation practices.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the second sentence of section 8 (b) of the Soil Con-
4 servation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended (16
5 U. S. C., sec. 590h (b)), is amended by striking out of said
6 sentence "In arid or semiarid sections," and inserting in lieu
7 thereof "Clauses".

I

84TH CONGRESS
1ST Session

H. R. 7236

A BILL

To amend section 8 (b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act with respect to water conservation practices.

By Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin

JULY 11, 1955

Referred to the Committee on Agriculture

A BILL

to amend the act of June 1, 1908, relating to the
organization of the National Bureau of Standards,
and for other purposes.

Enacted June 1, 1908.

Approved June 1, 1908.

July 13, 1955

amendment H. R. 426, to provide for the establishment of townsites (H. Rept. 1171) (p. 9008).

The Agriculture Committee ordered reported H. R. 6815, to provide for the orderly disposition of property acquired under Title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act, and H. J. Res. 112, to release reversionary right to improvements on a 3-acre tract in Orangeburg County, S. C. (p. D703).

14. PERSONNEL. Agreed to H. Res. 304, to authorize the Post Office and Civil Service Committee to conduct investigations and studies of certain matters within their jurisdiction (pp. 8973-4).
15. PAPER MANAGEMENT. The Joint Committee on Disposition of Executive Papers submitted its report (H. Repts. 1160, 1161) (p. 9007).
16. FOREST RESEARCH. The Agriculture Committee reported with amendment H. R. 1855, to facilitate and simplify the work of the Forest Service (H. Rept. 1173) (p. 9008).
17. MARKETING. The Agriculture Committee ordered reported H. R. 4054, to provide a system of mortgage insurance to municipal and other political subdivisions of the States, to be administered by the USDA, for the expansion of public marketing of perishable commodities, and H. R. 5337, to broaden the provisions of law relating to practices in the marketing of perishable agricultural commodities under the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act (p. D703).
18. WATER CONSERVATION. The Agriculture Committee ordered reported H. R. 7236, to amend section 8 (b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act with respect to water conservation practices (p. D703).
19. CONTRACTS. The conferees on H. R. 4904, extending the Renegotiation Act of 1951 for two years, agreed to file a conference report on the differences between the Senate and the House-passed versions of the bill (p. D705).

BILLS INTRODUCED

20. LEGAL SERVICES. S. 2503, by Sen. Wiley, and S. 2540, by Sen. McCarthy, to improve legal procedures in the executive branch of the Government by establishing certain offices within the Department of Justice and defining the functions thereof, creating a legal career service; to Judiciary Committee (pp. 8916, 8917). Remarks of Sen. Wiley (p. 8917).
S. 2504, by Sen. Wiley, and S. 2541, by Sen. McCarthy, to improve legal procedures in the executive branch of the Government through the enactment of an administrative code; to Judiciary Committee (pp. 8916, 8917). Remarks of Sen. Wiley (p. 8917).
21. MINERALS. S. 2505, by Sen. Murray (for himself and others), to amend the Domestic Minerals Program Extension Act of 1953 in order to encourage the discovery, development, and production of certain domestic minerals; to Interior and Insular Affairs Committee (p. 8916).
22. FARM PROGRAM. S. 2510, by Sen. Fulbright, "to amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1954;" to Agriculture and Forestry Committee (p. 8916).
S. 2511, by Sen. Fulbright, and H. R. 7367, by Rep. Gathings, "to amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended;" to Agriculture and Forestry and Agriculture Committees (pp. 8916, 9009).

24. NATIONAL FORESTS. S. 2517, by Sen. Jackson, to amend subsection 3 (a) of the act approved August 8, 1947, to authorize the sale of timber within the Tongass National Forest, Alaska; to Interior and Insular Affairs Committee (p. 8917).
25. FARM LOANS. S. 2528, by Sen. McCarthy, relating to the fixing of interest rates or other charges with respect to loans by the Farmers' Home Administration; to Banking and Currency Committee (p. 8917).
- S. 2529, by Sen. McCarthy, to provide for the liquidation of the production credit corporations; to Banking and Currency Committee (p. 8917).
- S. 2532, by Sen. McCarthy, relating to the fixing of interest rates, fees, or charges with respect to loans made, insured, or guaranteed by agencies of the United States; to Banking and Currency Committee (p. 8917).
- S. 2533, by Sen. McCarthy, to require that the rate of interest payable by agencies of the Government on loans and advances from the Treasury shall be not less than the going rate of interest paid by the Treasury on its obligations of comparable maturities; to Banking and Currency Committee (p. 8917).
- H. R. 7310, by Rep. Church, to repeal the authority of the Federal Farm Mortgage Corporation to issue bonds; to Agriculture Committee (p. 9008). Remarks of author (p. 8996).
- H. R. 7312, by Rep. Church, relating to the fixing of interest rates or other charges with respect to loans by the Farmers' Home Administration; to Agriculture Committee (p. 9008). Remarks of author (p. 8996).
- H. R. 7357, by Rep. Church, relating to the fixing of interest rates, fees, or charges with respect to loans made, insured, or guaranteed by agencies of the United States; to Ways and Means Committee (p. 9009). Remarks of author (p. 8996).
26. SMALL BUSINESS. S. 2534, by Sen. McCarthy, to make the Small Business Administration subject to the Government Corporation Control Act; to Banking and Currency Committee (p. 8917).
- by Rep. Byrd,
27. RUBBER. H. R. 7301, to amend the Rubber Producing Facilities Disposal Act of 1953, as heretofore amended, so as to permit the disposal thereunder of Plancor No. 980 at Institute, W. Va.; to Armed Services Committee (p. 9008).
28. RICE. H. R. 7302, by Rep. Thompson, Tex., to amend the rice marketing quota provisions of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended; to Agriculture Committee (p. 9008).
29. CCC. H. R. 7303, by Rep. Abernethy, to permit sale of Commodity Credit Corporation stocks of basic and storable nonbasic agricultural commodities without restriction where similar commodities are exported in raw or processed form; to Agriculture Committee (p. 9008).
30. PROPERTY. H. R. 7306, by Rep. Broyhill, to provide that the Administrator of General Services shall conduct an investigation and survey to determine the advisability of providing air-conditioning facilities in Government buildings; to Government Operations Committee (p. 9008).
- H. R. 7336, to add a new title relating to real property management to the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act of 1949, as amended; to Government Operations Committee (p. 9009). Remarks of author (p. 8996).

Digest of CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS

OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Issued July 19, 1955

For actions of July 18, 1955

84th-1st, No. 120.

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
(For Department Staff Only)

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For Highlights see page 9.

HOUSE

1. FOREIGN AFFAIRS. Both Houses received the President's annual report on U. S. participation in the United Nations (H. Doc. 219) (pp. 9153, 9231).
2. RESERVE FORCES. House conferees were appointed on H. R. 7000, the reserve forces bill (pp. 9232, 9234). Senate conferees have not yet been appointed.
3. LAND TRANSFER. Passed as reported H. R. 4280, conveying certain submarginal lands to Clemson College, S. C. (pp. 9235-6).
Passed as reported H. J. Res. 276, authorizing the Texas Hill Country Development Foundation to convey certain land to Kerr County, Tex., and such county to convey a portion thereof to the State, for extension work (p. 9263).
Passed as reported H. R. 4096, providing for the disposal of public lands within highway, telephone, and pipeline withdrawals in Alaska (p. 9264).
Passed without amendment S. 1878, extending for five years the authority to transfer certain ARS lands to Miles City, Mont. (p. 9265). Ready for President.
Both Houses received a draft of proposed legislation from the Secretary of Agriculture, "to authorize an exchange of land at the Agricultural Research Center;" to Agriculture Committees (pp. 9154, 9338).

July 18, 1955

The Agriculture Committee reported without amendment H. J. Res. 112, to release reversionary rights to improvements on a three acre tract of former FHA lands in Orangeburg County, S. C. (H. Rept. 1193) (p. 9338).

4. LANDS. Passed with amendment S. 1177, after substituting in the bill the language of H. R. 4308, which was subsequently laid on the table (p. 9265). The bill as passed provides for the relief of desert land entrymen whose entries are dependent upon percolating water for reclamation.
5. FOOD AND DRUGS; ANIMAL DISEASES. Passed without amendment H. R. 6991, to amend certain sections of Title 21 of the Food and Drug Act (pp. 9237-61). A statement from the USDA was inserted in the Record by Rep. Byrnes, Wis., to the effect that certain amendments were contemplated by USDA and would be brought to the attention of the Senate Judiciary Committee.
6. SURPLUS PROPERTY. Passed with amendment S. 611, after substituting in the bill the language of H. R. 3757, which was subsequently laid on the table. The bill as passed authorizes GSA to donate certain property to the American National Red Cross (pp. 9261-2).
Rep. Brooks, Tex., discussed H. R. 7227, to donate surplus property to civil defense organizations (p. 9239).
7. REAL PROPERTY. Passed without amendment S. 2097, to authorize the transfer of certain property for research purposes from the Virgin Islands Corporation to the USDA (p. 9264). This bill will now be sent to the President.
8. SOIL CONSERVATION. The Agriculture Committee reported without amendment S. 1167, to specifically provide for conservation payments to farmers who, in order to benefit their own lands, carry out conservation practices on Federal lands (H. Rept. 1192) (p. 9338).
9. WATER CONSERVATION. The Agriculture Committee reported without amendment H. R. 7236, to amend the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act with respect to water-conservation practices (H. Rept. 1199) (p. 9339).
10. MARKETING. The Agriculture Committee reported with amendment H. R. 5337, to amend the provisions of the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act, 1930, relating to practices in the marketing of perishable agricultural commodities (H. Rept. 1196) (p. 9338).
11. CCC. The Agriculture Committee reported without amendment H. R. 7252, to permit sale of CCC stock of basic and storable nonbasic agricultural commodities without restriction, where similar commodities are exported in raw or processed form (H. Rept. 1203) (p. 9339).
12. RESEARCH; DISEASE CONTROL. The Agriculture Committee ordered the following bills reported on Fri., July 15: S. 1166, to permit imports from the British Virgin Islands into the U. S. Virgin Islands for slaughter only, cattle and poultry which have been freed from tick infection; and S. 1759, amended, relating to appropriation of Federal funds for support of agricultural experiment stations in the States, Alaska, Hawaii, and Puerto Rico (p. D723).
13. INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS. The Legislative Reporting Staff has a few copies, for lending and reference purposes, of study committee reports, etc., of the Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, as follows: "Federal Aid to Airports," "Natural Resources and Conservation," "Twenty-five Federal Grant-in-Aid Programs," "Federal Aid to Public Health," "Federal Aid to Highways," "Natural Disaster Relief," "Payments in Lieu of Taxes and Shared Revenues,"

ACP WATER CONSERVATION PRACTICES

JULY 18, 1955.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union and ordered to be printed.

Mr. COOLEY, from the Committee on Agriculture, submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H. R. 7236]

The Committee on Agriculture to whom was referred the bill H. R. 7236 to amend section 8 (b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act with respect to water conservation practices, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

Section 8 of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act provides the authority and the legislative direction for assistance to farmers in establishing and carrying out conservation practices—what is now known as the agricultural conservation program. Subsection (b) of the section enumerates the general principles of the Government's aid to farmers, and includes among several factors to be considered—

(1) their treatment or use of their lands, or a part thereof, for soil restoration, soil conservation, or the prevention of erosion; (2) changes in the use of their lands.

The subsection further provides:

In arid or semiarid sections, (1) and (2) above shall be construed to cover water conservation and the beneficial use of water on individual farms, including measures to prevent runoff, the building of check dams and ponds, and providing facilities for applying water to the land.

At the time the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act was adopted by Congress, water problems and the desirability of water conservation measures were presumed to be limited to the arid and semiarid States lying generally west of the 100th meridian. In recent years it has become increasingly obvious that water conservation is the concern not only of the Western States but of the whole United States.

This bill will strike out the words "in arid or semiarid sections" from the sentence of the law quoted above. It will mean that in establishing the national standards for the ACP program, the Secre-

tary of Agriculture will have the authority, if he chooses to exercise it, of approving water conservation measures as ACP practices in any State. The legislation is purely permissive and will not require the Secretary to approve water conservation measures as part of the ACP program in any State where he does not deem it desirable to do so.

The bill herewith reported (H. R. 7236) was introduced at the direction of the committee following hearings on a bill (H. R. 6062) by the same author. H. R. 6062 would have repealed the limitation of the above sentence to arid and semiarid sections but would also have required the Secretary to approve certain specific wet-lands practices as ACP practices in all States. In its report on H. R. 6062 the Department of Agriculture indicated its opposition to designation of the specific wet-lands practices but stated that it did not object to amending the sentence to remove the applicability only to arid and semiarid sections. The bill reported complies with the Department's recommendation.

Following is the letter from the Department of Agriculture on H. R. 6062:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
Washington, June 7, 1955.

HON. HAROLD D. COOLEY,
*Chairman, Committee on Agriculture,
House of Representatives.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN COOLEY: This is in reply to your request on May 27, 1955, for a report on H. R. 6062, a bill "to amend the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act." This bill would amend the second sentence of section 8 (b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended, which presently is as follows: "In arid and semiarid sections (1) and (2) above shall be construed to cover water conservation and the beneficial use of water on individual farms, including measures to prevent runoff, the building of check dams and ponds, and providing facilities for applying water to the land." The effect of the amendment would be to eliminate the reference to "arid and semiarid sections" and to add wording to specifically authorize the fencing of wet lands and level ditching.

This Department is opposed to that portion of the bill relating specifically to "fencing of wet lands" and "level ditching." Elimination of the reference to "arid and semiarid sections" would not be objectionable.

Under present provisions of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act and the applicable appropriation acts in recent years, which have authorized annual agricultural-conservation programs, this Department has considered that ample authority exists for providing assistance to agricultural producers throughout the Nation under the agricultural-conservation program for the kinds of measures described in the proposed amendment, provided they meet the test of a "soil-building" or "soil- and water-conserving" measure for agricultural lands. It should be pointed out that the funds provided by Congress for annual programs are limited to "programs of soil-building practices and soil- and water-conserving practices", and the new wording proposed with respect to the fencing of wet lands and level ditching would broaden the scope of authority for the ACP, only if (1) those measures are for purposes other than soil or water conservation, and (2) changes likewise are made to authorize them in the annual appropriations.

It appears that the purpose of the amendment is primarily for the benefit of wildlife resources. Present policies under which the ACP is operated, provide that in certain practices, such as drainage where the activity might have a detrimental effect on wildlife resources, that consideration be given to the protection and maintenance of wildlife, but it is our belief that any benefits to wildlife resulting from the application of approved soil- and water-conservation practices under the ACP, must be in addition to direct and primary conservation benefits to agricultural lands.

Since the committee is to consider this bill on June 8, we are submitting this report without awaiting the advice of the Budget Bureau as to relationship of the proposed legislation to the program of the President.

Sincerely yours,

J. A. McCONNELL,
Acting Secretary.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with clause 3 of rule XIII of the rules of the House of Representatives, changes in existing law made by the bill are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italics, and existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

SOIL CONSERVATION AND DOMESTIC ALLOTMENT ACT, AS AMENDED

AN ACT To provide for the protection of land resources against soil erosion, and for other purposes

* * * * *

SEC. 8. * * * *:

(b) Subject to the limitations provided in subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary shall have power to carry out the purposes specified in clauses (1), (2), (3), (4), and (5) of section 7 (a) by making payments or grants of other aid to agricultural producers, including tenants and sharecroppers, in amounts determined by the Secretary to be fair and reasonable in connection with the effectuation of such purposes during the year with respect to which such payments or grants are made, and measured by (1) their treatment or use of their land, or a part thereof, for soil restoration, soil conservation, or the prevention of erosion; (2) changes in the use of their land; (3) their equitable share, as determined by the Secretary, of the normal national production of any commodity or commodities required for domestic consumption; or (4) their equitable share, as determined by the Secretary, of the national production of any commodity or commodities required for domestic consumption and exports adjusted to reflect the extent to which their utilization of cropland on the farm conforms to farming practices which the Secretary determines will best effectuate the purposes specified in section 7 (a); or (5) any combination of the above. [In arid or semiarid sections,] *clauses* (1) and (2) above shall be construed to cover water conservation and the beneficial use of water on individual farms, including measures to prevent runoff, the building of check dams and ponds, and providing facilities for applying water to the land.

* * * * *



H. R. 7236

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 1, 1955

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry

AN ACT

To amend section 8 (b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act with respect to water conservation practices.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the second sentence of section 8 (b) of the Soil Con-
4 servation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended (16
5 U. S. C., sec. 590h (b)), is amended by striking out of said
6 sentence "In arid or semiarid sections," and inserting in lieu
7 thereof "Clauses".

Passed the House of Representatives July 30, 1955.

Attest:

RALPH R. ROBERTS,

Clerk.

84TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 7236

AN ACT

To amend section 8 (b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act with respect to water conservation practices.

AUGUST 1, 1955

Read twice and referred to the Committee on
Agriculture and Forestry

12500 H. R. 7236

AN ACT

to amend the law relating to the

of the State of New York

July 30, 1955

38. INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS. Sen. Butler inserted a newspaper article favoring Federal collaboration with State and local governments (p. A5627).
39. COOPERATIVES; TAXATION. Rep. Cooper inserted a letter from the Secretary of the Treasury suggesting that the legislation on income taxation of cooperatives be tightened (pp. A5632-3).
40. ELECTRIFICATION. Sen. Bender inserted an address by J. B. Black favoring a Government-private "partnership" in the power development of the West (pp. A5636-8).

BILLS INTRODUCED - July 29

41. CLAIMS; APPROPRIATIONS. S. 2678, by Sen. Smith, N. J., "relating to the payment of certain claims against the Government where the appropriations therefor have lapsed"; to Government Operations Committee (p. 10341). Remarks of author (pp. 10341-2).
42. MARKETING. S. 2634, by Sen. Ellender, "to facilitate the marketing of agricultural commodities"; to Agriculture and Forestry Committee (p. 10341).
43. ACCOUNTING. S. 2677, by Sen. Smith, N. J., "to relieve certain officers of financial liability except in cases of gross negligence or fraud"; to Government Operations Committee (p. 10341). Remarks of author (pp. 10341-2).
44. ROADS. H. R. 7729, by Rep. Dempsey, to authorize road appropriations; to Public Works Committee (p. 10466).
45. LAND TRANSFER. H. R. 7723, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to convey certain lands in Phelps County, Mo., to the Chamber of Commerce of Rolla, Mo.; to Agriculture Committee (p. 10466).
46. CONSERVATION. H. J. Res. 415-425, to provide for observance of the 50th anniversary of the founding of the conservation movement for natural resources; to Judiciary Committee (p. 10467).
47. PERSONNEL. H. J. Res. 426, by Rep. Moss, to authorize the President to proclaim as Civil Service Week the week beginning Jan. 17, 1956, in commemoration of the 73rd anniversary of the American civil-service system; to Judiciary Committee (p. 10467).

HOUSE - July 30

48. SOIL CONSERVATION. Passed without amendment S. 1167, to permit ACP payments to persons who carry out conservation practices on federally owned noncropland which directly conserve or benefit nearby or adjoining private lands of such persons (p. 10589). This bill will now be sent to the President.
Passed without amendment H. R. 7236, to permit approval of water conservation practices under ACP in any State instead of "in arid or semiarid sections" (p. 10592).
49. MARKETING. Passed with amendments H. R. 5337, to amend the Perishable Agricultural Commodities Act so as to strengthen the provisions relating to misbranding or misrepresentation of grade and origin of fresh fruits and vegetables, increase the maximum annual license fee from the present \$15 per year to \$25, permit the Secretary of Agriculture to deny issuance of a license to any person convicted of a felony in any State or Federal court, authorize the Secretary to

deny a license to any applicant who has been involved in bankruptcy proceedings within 3 years unless the applicant furnishes a bond or other assurance, empower the Secretary to suspend the license of a person who employs in any responsible position an individual whose license is under suspension, and provide authority for the inspection of any perishable commodity covered by the Act (pp. 10590-1).

Passed as reported S. 1757, to amend the Agricultural Marketing Act of 1946 so as to remove any question which may have resulted from a change in appropriation language as to the applicability of penalties for forgery of inspection certificates covering agricultural commodities, and to expand and tighten provisions for such penalties (p. 10607).

The Agriculture Committee reported without amendment H. R. 4054, to provide for loans for development of central market facilities to handle perishable agricultural commodities (H. Rept. 1602)(p. 10677).

50. FARM LOANS. Passed without amendment S. 1758, to amend the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act relating to the insurance of farm real estate mortgages so the mortgages can be made directly to the Government instead of to the banks (pp. 10593-4). This bill will now be sent to the President.

Passed as reported S. 1621, to authorize adjustment by the Secretary of Agriculture of certain obligations of settlers on projects developed under or subject to the Wheeler-Case Act of 1939 (p. 10655).

51. RESEARCH. Passed as reported S. 1759, to consolidate authorization legislation regarding Federal aid to State agricultural experiment stations (pp. 10594-6).

52. COMMODITY EXCHANGES. Passed without amendment S. 1051, to amend the Commodity Exchange Act so as to authorize increases in fees and charges for registrations and renewals and for copies of registration certificates (p. 10601). This bill will now be sent to the President.

53. TRADE DEVELOPMENT. Passed without amendment S. 2253, to reemphasize trade development as the primary purpose of title I of Public Law 480, 83d Congress; to increase the funds available under that title from \$700 million to \$1.5 billion; and to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to determine the nation with whom agreements will be negotiated, and the quantities and commodities involved (pp. 10601-2). This bill will now be sent to the President.

54. EXTENSION WORK. Passed as reported S. 2098, to authorize special appropriations for extension work among low-income farmers (pp. 10612-13).

55. DEFENSE PRODUCTION. Passed with amendment S. 2391, to amend and extend the Defense Production Act. Several amendments, to prohibit without-compensation employees, were rejected. House and Senate conferees were appointed. (pp. 10620-30, 10774-5).

56. SUGAR. Passed, 194 to 44, with amendments H. R. 7030, to amend and extend the Sugar Act of 1948 (pp. 10630-51). Agreed, 123-37, to an amendment by Rep. Dixon to strike out Sec. 20 of the committee version, which provides that sugar shall be supported at 90% of parity through loans, purchases, or other operations (pp. 10645-51). Agreed to an amendment by Rep. Laird to strike out provisions directed at Peru and the Philippines (pp. 10644-5).

57. SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATION BILL, 1956. Both Houses agreed to the conference report on this bill, H. R. 7278, and acted upon amendments in disagreement (pp. 10554-9, 10733-5). This bill will now be sent to the President. A statement on the USDA items is attached to this Digest.

"(e) The Secretary shall refuse to issue a license to an applicant if he finds that the applicant, or in case the applicant is a partnership, any general partner, or in case the applicant is a corporation, any officer or holder of more than 10 percent of the stock, has, within 3 years prior to the date of the application, been adjudicated or discharged as a bankrupt, or was a general partner of a partnership or officer or holder of more than 10 percent of the stock of a corporation adjudicated or discharged as a bankrupt, unless the applicant furnishes a bond of such nature and amount as may be determined by the Secretary or other assurance satisfactory to the Secretary that the business of the applicant will be conducted in accordance with this act."

SEC. 4. Section 8 (b) of such act (7 U. S. C., sec. 499h (b)) is amended to read as follows:

"(b) The Secretary may, after 30 days' notice and an opportunity for a hearing, suspend or revoke the license of any commission merchant, dealer, or broker who, after the date given in such notice, continues to employ in any responsible position any individual whose license has been revoked or is under suspension or who was responsibly connected with any firm, partnership, association, or corporation whose license has been revoked or is under suspension. Employment of an individual whose license has been revoked or is under suspension for failure to pay a reparation award or who was responsibly connected with any firm, partnership, association, or corporation whose license has been revoked or is under suspension for failure to pay a reparation award after one year following the revocation or suspension of any such license may be permitted by the Secretary upon the filing by the employing licensee of a bond, of such nature and amount as may be determined by the Secretary, or other assurance satisfactory to the Secretary that its business will be conducted in accordance with the provisions of this act;"

SEC. 5. Section 13 (a) of such act (7 U. S. C., sec. 499m (a)) is amended to read as follows:

"(a) The Secretary or his duly authorized agents shall have the right to inspect all accounts, records, and memoranda of any commission merchant, dealer, or broker, and if any such commission merchant, dealer, or broker refuses to permit such inspection, the Secretary may publish the facts and circumstances and/or, by order, suspend the license of the offender until permission to make such inspection is given. The Secretary or his duly authorized agents shall have the right to inspect any lot of any perishable agricultural commodity covered by this act, and if any commission merchant, dealer, or broker having ownership of or control over such lot fails or refuses to authorize or allow such inspection, the Secretary may, after 30 days' notice and an opportunity for a hearing, publish the facts and circumstances and/or, by order, suspend the license of the offender for a period not to exceed 90 days."

With the following committee amendments:

Page 2, following line 2, add the following new section:

"SEC. 2. Section 3 (b) of such act (7 U. S. C., sec. 499c (b)) is amended by striking out in the third sentence the words 'of \$15' and inserting 'not to exceed \$25.'"

Page 2, line 3, change "SEC. 2" to "SEC. 3." Page 3, line 13, strike out "shall" and insert "may."

Page 3, line 15, change "SEC. 3" to "SEC. 4." Page 3, line 17, strike out "shall" and insert "may."

Page 4, line 5, change "SEC. 4" to "SEC. 5." Page 5, line 1, change "SEC. 5" to "SEC. 6."

The committee amendments were agreed to.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Clerk will report the next committee amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Page 5, beginning on line 3, strike out all of the first sentence through and including "given," on line 10, and insert:

"The Secretary or his duly authorized agents have the right to inspect such accounts, records, and memoranda of any commission merchant, dealer, or person, as may be required (1) in the investigation of complaints under this act; or (2) to the determination of ownership, the control factors in the State, country, or region of origin in connection with the commodity inspection; or (3) to ascertain whether the provisions of this act are being complied with and if such commission merchant shall refuse permission for inspection, the Secretary may publish the facts and circumstances or order suspended the licenses which the permission gives."

Mr. McINTIRE. Mr. Speaker, I offer an amendment to the committee amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. McINTIRE to the committee amendment:

Page 5, line 13, insert "shall" after "agents."

Page 5, line 17, strike out "the" and insert a comma after "control."

Page 5, line 18, strike out "factors in the state" and insert "packer" and insert thereafter a comma followed by the words "or state" followed by a comma.

Page 5, line 20, strike out "the provisions" and insert "Sec. 9" and strike out "are" and insert "is."

The amendment to the committee amendment was agreed to.

The committee amendment as amended was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ISSUANCE OF PATENTS FOR CERTAIN LANDS BORDERING UPON INDIAN RIVER, FLA.

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 6101) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue patents for certain lands in Florida bordering upon Indian River.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the present consideration of the bill?

There was no objection.

Mr. ENGLE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the bill (S. 464) to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to issue patents for certain lands in Florida bordering on Indian River, an identical Senate bill, be considered in lieu of the House bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate bill, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That the Secretary of the Interior shall issue patents for the public lands erroneously omitted from the survey which are situated between the position of the record meander line represented on the plat approved March 10, 1845, and the actual shoreline of the Indian River in sections 11, 13, 14, 23, 24, 25, and 36, township 27 south, range 37 east, Tallahassee Meridian,

Fla., to persons who hold such public lands in good faith and in peaceful adverse possession, if they or their predecessors in interest have been issued patents, prior to January 1, 1954, for the upland tracts adjoining such erroneously omitted lands. Payment to the United States shall be made for lands so patented at the same price per acre as that at which the land included in the original patent was purchased, but in no case less than \$1.25 per acre. No patent shall issue for any tract unless application for the tract is made by a qualified person within 1 year from the date of enactment of this act. The Secretary shall issue no patents until the conclusion of such period. The Secretary may, by public sale at not less than the appraised value or under any appropriate public land law, dispose of any tract of public land subject to this act which is not applied for by a qualified person within the 1-year period.

SEC. 2. Upon the filing of a plat of resurvey under section 1 of this act, the Secretary shall give such notice as he finds appropriate by newspaper publication or otherwise of the opening of the lands to purchase under this act.

SEC. 3. Nothing in this act shall affect valid existing rights.

The bill was ordered to be read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

A similar House bill (H. R. 6101) was laid on the table.

LAND EXCHANGES FOR COLONIAL NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK, VA.

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 5280) to authorize land exchanges for purposes of Colonial National Historical Park, in the State of Virginia, and for other purposes.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That for the purpose of preserving more effectively for the public benefit the historic properties within Colonial National Historical Park, Va., the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to consummate desirable land exchanges, as hereafter prescribed, and thereby to reduce and adjust the boundaries of the park. Any lands eliminated from the park hereunder shall not subsequently be added to the park except by act of Congress.

In furtherance of these purposes, the Secretary is authorized on behalf of the United States to accept from grantors title to non-Federal land and interests in land, together with the improvements thereon, situated within the authorized park boundaries, and in exchange therefor, to convey by deed on behalf of the United States to the aforesaid grantors land or interests therein, together with the improvements thereon, situated within Colonial National Historical Park that may be used advantageously for exchange purposes. The aforesaid exchanges are authorized to be made without additional compensation by either party to the exchange when the properties to be exchanged are of approximately equal value. When, however, the properties are not of approximately equal value, as may be determined by the Secretary, an additional payment of funds shall be required by the Secretary or by the grantor of non-Federal properties, as the case may be, in order to make an equal exchange. The Secretary is authorized to use any land acquisition funds relating to the National Park System for such purposes. The Secretary may consummate land exchanges herein authorized upon such terms, conditions, and procedures as

he may find to be necessary or desirable in carrying out the purposes of this act; and in evaluating non-Federal properties to be acquired hereunder, he is authorized to make such allowance as he may find to be equitable for the value of any residential properties that may be situated upon land to be acquired pursuant to this act. If expedient and in the public interest to do so, he may assist in the removal of structures from property to be acquired hereunder through the exchange procedure, and he may cooperate with public or private agencies and persons in the securing of housing for the aforesaid grantors who may require new housing accommodations or facilities as a result of the land exchanges herein authorized.

In the event that suitable land exchanges cannot be agreed upon in all cases for purposes of this act, the Secretary is authorized to sell those parcels of park land that otherwise would have been offered and conveyed through exchange procedures herein authorized. The Secretary is authorized to retain in a special receipt account and to expend any funds that he may obtain from such sales of property for the acquisition of non-Federal properties within the authorized boundaries of the Colonial National Historical Park.

With the following committee amendments:

Page 3, strike all of lines 10 to 19 inclusive. Page 3, add the following new section:

"Sec. 2. The Secretary is further authorized to transfer without compensation up to 15 acres of the Colonial National Historical Park, Va., to the Commonwealth of Virginia for use by agencies of the Commonwealth in the establishment of a State park in furtherance of the purposes of the Colonial National Historical Park."

The committee amendments were agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed.

The title was amended so as to read: "A bill to authorize land exchanges for purposes of Colonial National Historical Park, in the State of Virginia; to authorize the transfer of certain lands of Colonial National Historical Park, in the State of Virginia, to the Commonwealth of Virginia, and for other purposes."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

ACP WATER CONSERVATION PRACTICES

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 7236) to amend section 8 (b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act with respect to water-conservation practices.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That the second sentence of section 8 (b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended (16 U. S. C., sec. 590h (b)), is amended by striking out of said sentence "in arid or semiarid sections," and inserting in lieu thereof "Clauses."

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

EXPORT SALES OF SURPLUS STORABLE COMMODITIES

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 7252) to permit sale of Commodity Credit Corporation stock of basic and storable non-basic agricultural commodities without restriction where similar commodities are exported in raw or processed form.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the present consideration of the bill?

Mr. SAYLOR. Mr. Speaker, I object.

PROVIDING RUNNING MATES FOR CERTAIN STAFF CORPS OFFICERS IN THE NAVAL SERVICE

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 4229) to provide running mates for certain staff officers in the naval service and for other purposes.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the present consideration of the bill?

Mr. YATES. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, will a member of the committee explain this bill?

Mr. KILDAY. Mr. Speaker, this bill is for the purpose of adjusting and really rectifying the present system of promotions for the Staff Corps of the Navy. It would affect members of the Staff Corps only at the time they are promoted from midshipman to lieutenant, junior grade. At the present time, there is what is known, of course, as the running-mate system, which has been in existence for many years. Promotion from midshipman to lieutenant, junior grade, is automatic. At that time, therefore, the individual acquires his running mate. Under the present system it is possible for the man who came out of the Naval Academy at the very top or very high in his class to acquire a running mate which was very junior to him at the time they graduated from the Academy. This would eliminate that disparity and permit the party ranking with him or in his regular precedence at the time of graduation.

Mr. YATES. Does this bill eliminate the fanning system as far as junior officers are concerned?

Mr. KILDAY. That is the purpose of the bill.

Mr. YATES. The purpose of it will be also to give a greater break to members of the Staff Corps?

Mr. KILDAY. That is correct.

Mr. YATES. Permit their being considered for promotion to higher ratings at an earlier time than they are being considered for promotion under present law?

Mr. KILDAY. Yes; at an earlier time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the present consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That paragraph (3) of section 311 (d) of the Officer Personnel Act of 1947, as amended, is further amended by—

(a) inserting in the first sentence after the comma which follows the parenthetical

phrase "(Public Law 347, 79th Cong.)" the words "or the act of August 13, 1946 (ch. 962, 60 Stat. 1057), and except those appointed from graduates of the United States Naval Academy,"; and

(b) Substituting a colon for the period at the end of the paragraph and adding the following: "Provided further, That each officer appointed in the grade of ensign in the Navy under the act of August 13, 1946 (ch. 962, 60 Stat. 1057), or upon graduation from the United States Naval Academy who is serving as an officer in a staff corps at the time of his promotion to lieutenant (junior grade) shall, upon promotion, be assigned as his running mate the line lieutenant (junior grade) with date of rank in the same calendar year who would be next senior to him had the officer of the staff corps been originally appointed to the grade of ensign in the line and continued to serve as a line officer to the date of his promotion to lieutenant (junior grade) or if there be no such officer the line officer who would have been next junior."

SEC. 2. Each officer of a staff corps, who is a graduate of the United States Naval Academy or who was appointed as an ensign under the act of August 13, 1946 (ch. 962, 60 Stat. 1057), and who prior to the effective date of this act, was assigned a running mate in the grade of lieutenant (junior grade) under paragraph (3) of section 311 (d) of the Officer Personnel Act of 1947, as amended, shall have assigned as his running mate, in the grade in which he is serving on the effective date of this act, the line officer who would have been his running mate in that grade had paragraph (3) of section 311 (d) been amended as provided in section 1 of this act prior to the date upon which he was assigned a running mate in the grade of lieutenant (junior grade).

SEC. 3. No back pay or allowances shall accrue to any officer of the naval service as the result of the enactment of this act.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

AMENDING BANKRUPTCY ACT AS TO UNCLAIMED MONEYS

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 6247) to amend subdivision a of section 66—unclaimed moneys—of the Bankruptcy Act, as amended, and to repeal subdivision b of section 66 of the Bankruptcy Act, as amended.

There being no objection, the Clerk read the bill, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That subdivision a of section 66 of the Bankruptcy Act, as amended, is hereby amended by adding at the end thereof the following additional sentence: "Such moneys and dividends shall be deposited and withdrawn as provided in title 28, United States Code, section 2042, and shall not be subject to escheat under the laws of any State."

SEC. 2. Subdivision b of section 66 of the Bankruptcy Act is hereby repealed.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

INCREASING COMPENSATION OF TRUSTEES IN BANKRUPTCY

The Clerk called the bill (H. R. 5047) to increase the compensation of trustees in bankruptcy.

84TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 7236

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 1, 1955

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry

AN ACT

To amend section 8 (b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act with respect to water conservation practices.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the second sentence of section 8 (b) of the Soil Con-
4 servation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended (16
5 U. S. C., sec. 590h (b)), is amended by striking out of said
6 sentence "In arid or semiarid sections," and inserting in lieu
7 thereof "Clauses".

Passed the House of Representatives July 30, 1955.

Attest:

RALPH R. ROBERTS,

Clerk.

84TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 7236

AN ACT

To amend section 8 (b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act with respect to water conservation practices.

AUGUST 1, 1955

Read twice and referred to the Committee on
Agriculture and Forestry

Digest of CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS

OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Issued

March 22, 1956

For actions of

March 21, 1956

84th-2nd, No. 50

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
(For Department Staff Only)

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HIGHLIGHTS: House passed second supplemental appropriation bill for 1956. House agreed to Senate amendments to bill extending school milk and brucellosis eradication programs through 1958. Sen. Anderson questioned Department's estimate of minimum support level under farm bill for basic crops. Sen. Capehart and Rep. Harvey introduced and discussed bills to increase industrial use of agricultural surpluses.

HOUSE

1. APPROPRIATIONS. Passed with amendments H. R. 10004, the second supplemental appropriation bill for 1956. p. 4680 (For items of interest to this Department, see Digest 46.)
2. SCHOOL MILK; BRUCELLOSIS ERADICATION. Rejected the conference report on H. R. 8320, to extend the school milk and brucellosis eradication programs, and adopted the Senate amendments thereto (pp. 4680, A2553). The Senate amendments provided for the extension of the school milk and brucellosis eradication programs through the fiscal year 1958 and increases in funds available for the programs, the extension of the milk program to certain nursery schools and non-profit organizations, and the extension of the surplus dairy products disposal to the VA and armed services through 1958. This bill is now ready for the President.
3. TOBACCO. Rep. Wilson, Ind., criticized the use of inferior and stem tobacco in the manufacture of cigarettes and suggested that an investigation be made of the possible harmful effects of this process of manufacture. p. 4679
4. DAIRY INDUSTRY. Rep. Andersen paid tribute to D. T. Carlson as a leader in the dairy industry. p. 4682

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5. BANKING AND CURRENCY. Rep. Reuss spoke in favor of his bill H. R. 10080, to provide for the payment by the U. S. Treasury of unpaid principal and interest, up to the date of receivership, of bonds of six joint stock land banks which failed in the 1920's and 1930's. p. 4706
6. MONOPOLIES. Rep. Patman, in a speech favorable to H. R. 11, to prohibit certain price discriminations, cited the support of the Cooperative League to this measure. p. 4712
7. ELECTRIFICATION. Both Houses received the annual report of the Federal Power Commission; to the Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee. pp. 4714, 4638
8. TRANSPORTATION. The Merchant Marine and Fisheries Committee reported without amendment H. R. 7874, to provide for transportation of passengers and merchandise on Canadian vessels between certain points within Alaska and the U. S. (H. Rept. 1928). p. 4714
9. PROPERTY. The Government Operations Committee adopted a report, "Real and Personal Property Inventory Report" of the U. S. government (H. Rept. 1930). p. 4714

SENATE

10. FARM PROGRAM. Sen. Anderson questioned the accuracy of figures released by the Department of estimated minimum support levels for basic crops and dairy products under the farm bill, S. 3183, and offered computations he had made to support his position. p. 4676
For a summary of the provisions of the farm bill as passed by the Senate see the attachment to this Digest.
11. FORESTRY. The Agriculture and Forestry Committee ordered reported without amendment the following bills: p. D267
H. R. 374, to authorize the adjustment and clarification of ownership to certain lands within the Stanislaus National Forest.
H. R. 1855, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to (1) require, whenever it is determined to be in the public interest, that satisfactory cooperative arrangements be made before any research is undertaken by the Forest Service; (2) establish a Forest and Range Research National Advisory Committee; (3) advance funds to cooperators when cooperative research work will be stimulated or facilitated by so doing; and (4) pay from Forest Service research activities funds the travel and subsistence expenses of the members of the Forest and Range Research National Advisory Committee in connection with their attendance at meetings for the purpose of performing their duties.
12. WATER CONSERVATION. The Agriculture and Forestry Committee ordered reported without amendment H. R. 7236, to amend section 8 (b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act with respect to water conservation practices. p. D267
13. SEEDS. The Agriculture and Forestry Committee ordered reported with amendment S. 1688, to prescribe civil penalties for violations of the Federal Seed Act. p. D267
14. PUBLIC LANDS. The Agriculture and Forestry Committee ordered reported with amendment S. 2246, to authorize the sale of certain lands to the city of Wall, S. Dak.; and without amendment H. J. Res. 112, to release reversionary right

Digest of CONGRESSIONAL PROCEEDINGS

OF INTEREST TO THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

OFFICE OF BUDGET AND FINANCE
(For Department Staff Only)

Issued
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March 23, 1956
March 22, 1956
84th-2nd, No. 51

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HIGHLIGHTS: Rep. Jones, Mo., defended House Agriculture Committee against allegations of dilatory tactics in consideration of farm bill. Rep. Johnson, Wis., criticized flexible price support of dairy products and cited decline in dairy products producers' gross income. Rep. Gross urged acceleration of consideration of farm bill and soil bank proposal. Rep. Sikes urged increased Federal-State cooperation in forestry programs. Rep. Fountain criticized this Department's actions in CCC cheese purchase. Sen. Humphrey said farm program was factor in Minnesota primary election.

SENATE

1. FARM PROGRAM. The "Daily Digest" states that "conferees of the Senate met in executive session with representatives of the House Committee on Agriculture to discuss H. R. 12, Agricultural Act of 1956. It was announced that a conference meeting will be held on this bill on Monday, March 26". p. 4280

Sen. Humphrey spoke of the farm program as being a factor in the results of the Presidential primary election in Minnesota. p. 4775

Sen. Langer inserted several resolutions adopted by the Water Users Irrigation Conference relative to the sale of lands within irrigation districts, minor construction by irrigation districts, increasing the sugar beet quota, increasing acreage allotments for small farmers, and expanding the noxious weed program. p. 4718

2. FORESTRY. The Agriculture and Forestry Committee reported without amendment the following bills: p. 4719

H. R. 374, to authorize the adjustment and clarification of ownership to certain lands within the Stanislaus National Forest (S. Rept. 1702).

H. R. 1855, to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to (1) require, whenever it is determined to be in the public interest, that satisfactory cooperative arrangements be made before any research is undertaken by the Forest Service; (2) establish a Forest and Range Research National Advisory Committee, (3) advance funds to cooperators when cooperative research work will be

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stimulated or facilitated by so doing; and (4) pay from Forest Service research activities funds the travel and subsistence expenses of the members of the Forest and Range Research National Advisory Committee in connection with their attendance at meetings for the purpose of performing their duties (S. Rept. 1703).

3. WATER CONSERVATION. The Agriculture and Forestry Committee reported without amendment H. R. 7236, to amend section 8 (b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act with respect to water conservation practices (S. Rept. 1704). p. 4719
4. SEEDS. The Agriculture and Forestry Committee reported with amendment S. 1688, to prescribe civil penalties for violations of the Federal Seed Act (S. Rept. 1701). p. 4719
5. PUBLIC LANDS. The Agriculture and Forestry Committee reported with amendment S. 2246, to authorize the sale of certain lands to the city of Wall, S. Dak. (S. Rept. 1700); and without amendment H. J. Res. 112, to release reversionary right to improvements on a 3-acre tract in Orangeburg County, S. C. (S. Rept. 1707). p. 4719
6. COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS. Sen. Anderson was excused from further service as a member of the Agriculture and Forestry Committee and assigned to the Finance Committee. Sen. Johnson was excused from further service as a member of the Finance Committee and assigned to the Appropriations Committee. Sen. Laird was assigned to the Post Office and Civil Service Committee. p. 4717
7. FORESTRY. Sen. Morse spoke in favor of and explained the provisions of a bill (S. 3420) he recently introduced to expand the construction of forest access roads, and inserted the text of the bill and statements relative to it. p. 4758

HOUSE

8. FARM PROGRAM. Rep. Jones, Mo., defended the Agriculture Committee and the Democratic Party membership against allegations of dilatory tactics in consideration of the farm bill. p. 4783
Rep. Gross urged that consideration of the farm bill, including the soil bank proposal, be accelerated, even foregoing the scheduled Easter recess. However, Rep. Jones contended that consideration would be given to the farm bill as soon as possible, after study of its provisions. p. 4786
9. DAIRY PRODUCTS. Rep. Johnson, Wis., criticized the operation of flexible price supports as contributing to the alleged decline in the gross income of the dairy farmer. p. 4783
10. FORESTRY. Rep. Sikes urged increased Federal-State cooperation in tree planting activities, forest fire control, forestry research, and forest management. He urged that obstacles to accomplishment of these objectives be overcome as soon as possible. p. 4788
11. SURPLUS COMMODITIES. Rep. Fountain criticized this Department's actions in certain Commodity Credit Corporation cheese purchase and resale activities of March and April 1954 and inserted correspondence between this Department and

ACP WATER CONSERVATION PRACTICES

MARCH 22 (legislative day, MARCH 19), 1956.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. ELLENDER, from the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

[To accompany H. R. 7236]

The Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, to whom was referred the bill (H. R. 7236) to amend section 8 (b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act with respect to water-conservation practices, having considered the same, report thereon with a recommendation that it do pass without amendment.

This bill would permit payments to be made under the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act for water-conservation practices in the humid areas as well as the arid and semiarid areas. The report of the House Committee on Agriculture is attached.

[H. Rept. No. 1199, 84th Cong., 1st sess.]

The Committee on Agriculture to whom was referred the bill H. R. 7236 to amend section 8 (b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act with respect to water conservation practices, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

Section 8 of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act provides the authority and the legislative direction for assistance to farmers in establishing and carrying out conservation practices—what is now known as the agricultural conservation program. Subsection (b) of the section enumerates the general principles of the Government's aid to farmers, and includes among several factors to be considered—

“(1) their treatment or use of their lands, or a part thereof, for soil restoration, soil conservation, or the prevention of erosion; (2) changes in the use of their lands.”

The subsection further provides:

"In arid or semiarid sections, (1) and (2) above shall be construed to cover water conservation and the beneficial use of water on individual farms, including measures to prevent runoff, the building of check dams and ponds, and providing facilities for applying water to the land."

At the time the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act was adopted by Congress, water problems and the desirability of water conservation measures were presumed to be limited to the arid and semiarid States lying generally west of the 100th meridian. In recent years it has become increasingly obvious that water conservation is the concern not only of the Western States but of the whole United States.

This bill will strike out the words "in arid or semiarid sections" from the sentence of the law quoted above. It will mean that in establishing the national standards for the ACP program, the Secretary of Agriculture will have the authority, if he chooses to exercise it, of approving water conservation measures as ACP practices in any State. The legislation is purely permissive and will not require the Secretary to approve water conservation measures as part of the ACP program in any State where he does not deem it desirable to do so.

The bill herewith reported (H. R. 7236) was introduced at the direction of the committee following hearings on a bill (H. R. 6062) by the same author. H. R. 6062 would have repealed the limitation of the above sentence to arid and semiarid sections but would also have required the Secretary to approve certain specific wet-lands practices as ACP practices in all States. In its report on H. R. 6062 the Department of Agriculture indicated its opposition to designation of the specific wet-lands practices but stated that it did not object to amending the sentence to remove the applicability only to arid and semiarid sections. The bill reported complies with the Department's recommendation.

Following is the letter from the Department of Agriculture on H. R. 6062:

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
Washington, June 7, 1955.

Hon. HAROLD D. COOLEY,
*Chairman, Committee on Agriculture,
House of Representatives.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN COOLEY: This is in reply to your request on May 27, 1955, for a report on H. R. 6062, a bill "to amend the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act." This bill would amend the second sentence of section 8 (b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended, which presently is as follows: "In arid and semiarid sections (1) and (2) above shall be construed to cover water conservation and the beneficial use of water on individual farms, including measures to prevent runoff, the building of check dams and ponds, and providing facilities for applying water to the land." The effect of the amendment

would be to eliminate the reference to "arid and semiarid sections" and to add wording to specifically authorize the fencing of wet lands and level ditching.

This Department is opposed to that portion of the bill relating specifically to "fencing of wet lands" and "level ditching." Elimination of the reference to "arid and semiarid sections" would not be objectionable.

Under present provisions of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act and the applicable appropriation acts in recent years, which have authorized annual agricultural-conservation programs, this Department has considered that ample authority exists for providing assistance to agricultural producers throughout the Nation under the agricultural-conservation program for the kinds of measures described in the proposed amendment, provided they meet the test of a "soil-building" or "soil- and water-conserving" measure for agricultural lands. It should be pointed out that the funds provided by Congress for annual programs are limited to "programs of soil-building practices and soil- and water-conserving practices," and the new wording proposed with respect to the fencing of wet lands and level ditching would broaden the scope of authority for the ACP, only if (1) those measures are for purposes other than soil or water conservation, and (2) changes likewise are made to authorize them in the annual appropriations.

It appears that the purpose of the amendment is primarily for the benefit of wildlife resources. Present policies under which the ACP is operated provide that in certain practices, such as drainage where the activity might have a detrimental effect on wildlife resources, that consideration be given to the protection and maintenance of wildlife, but it is our belief that any benefits to wildlife resulting from the application of approved soil- and water-conservation practices under the ACP, must be in addition to direct and primary conservation benefits to agricultural lands.

Since the committee is to consider this bill on June 8, we are submitting this report without awaiting the advice of the Budget Bureau as to relationship of the proposed legislation to the program of the President.

Sincerely yours,

J. A. McCONNELL,
Acting Secretary.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with subsection (4) of rule XXIX of the Standing Rules of the Senate, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italic, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

SOIL CONSERVATION AND DOMESTIC ALLOTMENT ACT,
AS AMENDED

* * * * *

SEC. 8. * * *:

(b) Subject to the limitations provided in subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary shall have power to carry out the purposes specified in clauses (1), (2), (3), (4), and (5) of section 7 (a) by making payments or grants of other aid to agricultural producers, including tenants and sharecroppers, in amounts determined by the Secretary to be fair and reasonable in connection with the effectuation of such purposes during the year with respect to which such payments or grants are made, and measured by (1) their treatment or use of their land, or a part thereof, for soil restoration, soil conservation, or the prevention of erosion; (2) changes in the use of their land; (3) their equitable share, as determined by the Secretary, of the normal national production of any commodity or commodities required for domestic consumption; or (4) their equitable share, as determined by the Secretary, of the national production of any commodity or commodities required for domestic consumption and exports adjusted to reflect the extent to which their utilization of cropland on the farm conforms to farming practices which the Secretary determines will best effectuate the purposes specified in section 7 (a); or (5) any combination of the above. [In arid or semiarid sections,] *Clauses* (1) and (2) above shall be construed to cover water conservation and the beneficial use of water on individual farms, including measures to prevent runoff, the building of check dams and ponds, and providing facilities for applying water to the land.

* * * * *



Calendar No. 1729

84TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7236

[Report No. 1704]

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 1, 1955

Read twice and referred to the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry

MARCH 22 (legislative day, MARCH 19), 1956

Reported by Mr. ELLENDER, without amendment

AN ACT

To amend section 8 (b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act with respect to water conservation practices.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That the second sentence of section 8 (b) of the Soil Con-
4 servation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended (16
5 U. S. C., sec. 590h (b)), is amended by striking out of
6 said sentence "In arid or semiarid sections," and inserting
7 in lieu thereof "Clauses".

Passed the House of Representatives July 30, 1955.

Attest:

RALPH R. ROBERTS,

Clerk.

Calendar No. 1729

84TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7236

[Report No. 1704]

AN ACT

To amend section 8 (b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act with respect to water conservation practices.

AUGUST 1, 1955

Read twice and referred to the Committee on
Agriculture and Forestry

MARCH 22 (legislative day, MARCH 19), 1956

Reported without amendment

12. WATER CONSERVATION. Passed without amendment H. R. 7236, to amend section 8 (B) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to permit payments for water-conservation practices in the humid areas as well as the arid and semi-arid areas. This bill is now ready for the President. p. 4924
13. EDUCATION. Received from the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare a report, "Report of the Long Range Planning Phase--School Facilities Survey." p. 4894
14. ACREAGE ALLOTMENTS. Sen. Thurmond inserted resolutions of the S. C. Legislature favoring legislation to grant the small farmer and the cotton farmer relief from certain acreage allotments. p. 4894
15. PRICE SUPPORTS. Sen. Langer inserted a local Republican Party resolution favoring 100% parity for all farm commodities, and increased wheat prices. p. 4895
16. FARM PROGRAM. Sen. Carlson inserted a local Farm Bureau letter stating that its policy committee had adopted resolutions favoring increased soil erosion incentive payments, more Federal participation in watershed program, and that summer fallow be considered in setting acreage quotas. p. 4896

ITEMS IN APPENDIX

17. SOIL-BANK. Sen. Neuberger inserted a letter he received from the editor of the Oregon Farmer proposing that tree-fruit plantings with cover cropping have a place in the soil-bank legislation. p. A2614
Sen. Case inserted a newspaper editorial, written after interviewing farmers on their ideas about the soil bank and the amount of money needed to induce them to retire acres, stating that farmers are considering the disturbance to their farming operations, as well as the basic matter of the income they normally get from land planted in corn or in wheat. p. A2632
18. FORESTS. Sen. Bennett inserted an editorial urging increased expenditures for improvement of forest recreational areas. p. A2615
19. RURAL TELEPHONES. Extension of remarks of Rep. Willis commending and describing REA's telephone-loan program and stating that the "future of rural telephony appears to be brighter each year." p. A2616
20. FARM PROGRAM. Sen. Langer inserted a daily radio roundup of the Farmers Union Grain Terminal Ass'n discussing various interpretations of farm conditions and the political campaigns. p. A2617
Rep. Marshall inserted a newspaper article, "Humphrey's Hand Swung Farm Vote--Maneuvering By Minnesotan In Face of Skeptics Turned Tide For Democrats." p. A2640
Rep. Magnuson inserted a newspaper article concerning the Federal farm program stating that "it seems to the writer that our farm troubles arise largely from the fact that we traditionally put the business cart before the agricultural horse." p. A2648
21. SCHOOL LUNCH. Sen. Neuberger inserted a letter from the president of the Parent-Teacher Ass'n, Rockaway, Oreg., favoring increased aid to the Oregon hot-lunch program. p. A2620

22. CONSERVATION. Rep. Reuss inserted Les Woerpel's address before the North American Wildlife Conference discussing some of the "fumbles" of conservation programs and stating they indicate a lack of depth of understanding of the whole problem. p. A2630
23. FOREIGN AID. Rep. Johnson, Calif., inserted a newspaper editorial, "Eisenhower Is Sound On Foreign Aid Plan." p. A2635
24. WHEAT. Rep. Magnuson inserted a constituent's letter discussing the position of the wheat farmer, with particular reference to Whitman County in the State of Washington, and how he might be expected to view the farm legislation now under consideration. p. A2649
25. LANDS. Extension of remarks of Rep. Young, Nev., expressing approval of "a bold and effective new small-tract program to meet the needs of the people of the Las Vegas area," and inserting a Bureau of Land Management statement of response to typical questions on the new small-tract program. p. A2653
26. TRANSPORTATION. Rep. Tollefson inserted a Marine News magazine article favoring H. R. 8997, which would provide that 100-percent of all Government-sponsored cargoes shall be carried in American-flag ships. p. A2657
27. FOOD AND DRUG. Rep. Priest inserted a proclamation by the Gov. of Tenn. commemorating the 50th anniversary of Food and Drug Act of 1906 and the meat inspection law of the same year. p. A2662.
28. FLOOD CONTROL. Extension of remarks of Rep. MacDonald appealing to the Democratic and Republican leadership of both the House and Senate Appropriations Committees urging immediate action to provide the necessary funds for flood-control projects. p. A2665

BILLS INTRODUCED

29. LABOR; CONTRACTS. H. R. 9626, by Rep. Wainwright, to establish standards for hours of work and overtime pay of laborers and mechanics employed on work done under contract for, or with the financial aid of, the U. S., for any Territory, or for the District of Columbia; to Education and Labor Committee.
30. PROPERTY. S. 3534, by Sen. Schoepfel, to provide for payments in lieu of taxes to State tax authorities with respect to certain real property subject at the time of its acquisition by the U. S. to real property tax committed to the discharge of bonded indebtedness for any public improvement; to Government Operations Committee.
- H. R. 10163, by Rep. Dies, to require the Secretary of the Treasury to include assets of U. S. Government in daily statements; to Ways and Means Committee. Remarks of author, p. 4987
- H. Res. 445, by Rep. Dies, authorizing the Committee on Government Operations to make certain studies and investigations; to Rules Committee. Remarks of author, p. 4987.
31. AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ACT. H. R. 10158, by Rep. Abbitt, "to amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938, as amended;" to Agriculture Committee.
32. PERSONNEL. H. R. 10162, by Rep. Cramer, "to revise the Civil Service Retirement Act;" to Post Office and Civil Service Committee.

United States coal exports in August and September (excluding those to Canada) exceeded 3.7 million tons monthly and were nearly three times as large as in the corresponding months of 1953 and 1954.

As to the source of any coal financed by ICA, this is difficult to predict in advance. All authorizations will include, but not be limited to, the United States as a source, and purchases will normally be made from the most economical sources. It is probable that Korea will find offers from Japan or Formosa the more attractive, particularly in view of the substantial increases in ocean freight rates during the last 12 months. Any European countries to which authorizations may be issued will probably find the United States coal exporters making the most economical offers.

If we can furnish any additional information of value to Mr. French, we shall be happy to do so.

Sincerely yours,

D. A. FITZGERALD,
Acting Director.

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
ADMINISTRATION,
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR,
Washington, D. C., October 27, 1955.

Hon. JAMES E. MURRAY,
United States Senate,
Washington, D. C.

DEAR SENATOR MURRAY: I have your letter of September 30, 1955, addressed to Mr. Charles G. McNaron, concerning the fiscal year 1955 coal program as it pertained to the operations of the FOA for that fiscal year. As there seems to have been some contradiction in several quarters as to the method of implementation and the end results of the program in question, I would like to take this occasion to review the exact chronology, figures, and facts of the operation in order to clarify the situation.

On September 21, 1954, the President directed that the FOA undertake to utilize United States-mined coal for export in the implementation of the fiscal year 1955 mutual-security program (ending June 30, 1955) to the maximum extent feasible, consistent with the Mutual Security Act and other relevant policies of the administration. A target consisting of an increase of 10 million tons of export coal was suggested as reasonable. It was further directed that, insofar as practicable, this increased export tonnage should be divided between the major types of coal and the major coalfields, endeavoring to relate the purchases to the areas of highest relative unemployment.

Under the authority vested in him under section 401 of the Mutual Security Act of 1954, the President also authorized the establishment of a \$20-million revolving fund for fiscal year 1955 ending June 30, this in addition to the use of funds for this operation allotted to aid-receiving countries by FOA.

In part, because of the stimulus of this program, United States coal exports increased 15 million tons from the 1953-54 average of 14 million tons annually to 29,272,000 tons for the 12 months ending September 30, 1955. Of these increased exports, FOA financed from fiscal year 1955 funds approximately 4,400,000 tons, including both normal aid procurement and the procurement under the \$20-million revolving fund for a total expenditure of \$74 million. The near-record high level of coal exports, which in August and September of this year were at the rate of 3,770,000 tons per month, is an indication of the relaxation of trade restrictions against American coal, the ability of foreign governments, having in many instances achieved successful rehabilitation, to provide the dollars to purchase coal, and the continuing high demand for coal in free-world areas outside the United States. The limiting factor, if any, in the months im-

mediately ahead will be availability of ocean shipping, rather than lack of dollar financing.

There will be some requirements for coal in the fiscal year 1956 International Cooperation Administration's program. Because the overall conditions in the coal industry that led to the emergency fiscal year 1955 purchase program have improved substantially and because methods other than purchases out of foreign-aid funds are better designed to deal with the basic causes of local economic distress, the International Cooperation Administration believes that purchases required for the fiscal year 1956 program should be carried out in the usual manner on the free-world market in line with the basic concept established by the Congress in the Mutual Security Act and in order to minimize the expense to our taxpayers. At the same time the competitive opportunity of American industry to participate, if the occasion warrants, is available through the wide publicity given to ICA-financed procurement as well as our insistence on adequate and comparable quality standards.

Sincerely yours,

D. A. FITZGERALD,
Acting Director.

SEPTEMBER 30, 1955.

Mr. CHARLES G. McNARON,
Chief, Coal and Steel Branch, International Cooperation Administration,
Washington, D. C.

DEAR MR. McNARON: I am informed that it is the announced policy of ICA that for this year, at least, purchases of coal under agency-financed transactions will be from the most economical free-world source.

It occurs to me to wonder what became of the program, presumably set up by White House directive, to purchase 10 million tons of coal from distressed domestic areas. Kindly inform me how much has been purchased to date under this program, from what areas, and why the new policy which, apparently, nullifies the previous one.

I feel very strongly that coal purchased for export by ICA funds should be purchased in the American market from distressed areas.

Sincerely yours,

JAMES E. MURRAY.

[From the New York Times of September 22, 1954]

FEDERAL BUYING OF COAL APPROVED—RELIEF OF DISTRESSED REGIONS IS AIM OF PLAN LINKED TO AID OF FOREIGN COUNTRIES

DENVER, September 21.—A program seeking to relieve unemployment in distressed coalfields in the United States while aiding underdeveloped foreign countries was approved today by President Eisenhower.

After a conference with the President, Harold E. Stassen, Director of the Foreign Operations Administration, outlined the program.

Mr. Stassen said the United States would start immediately to purchase 10 million tons of American coal that he estimated would cost some \$150 million. Under the President's direction, the coal is to come from the most critical unemployment areas.

The coal will be shipped to coal-importing countries in exchange for products that may be transferred to underdeveloped countries or in exchange for local currencies to be plowed back into the countries for various economic or military projects.

The coal program, Mr. Stassen said at the Lowry Air Force Base headquarters of the President, was an example of the President's directive of "fitting together the needs overseas with the economic situation at home." He estimated that 75 percent of the \$3.5 billion his agency would use in the present fiscal year would be spent inside the United States.

The coal purchases will be made as follows:

From Kentucky, West Virginia, and Pennsylvania, 2 million tons each; from Illinois, 1.5 million tons; and 2.5 million tons generally distributed through other coal-producing regions.

As an example of how the coal would be used, Mr. Stassen said some coal would be shipped to Spain where it could be used for part of the costs of American airbases there. This would be an arrangement similar to that worked out for food surpluses.

In addition, the United States might obtain Spanish products, such as citrus fruit for the Near East, or some minerals needed in north Africa or in other friendly countries.

CLARIFICATION OF OWNERSHIP TO CERTAIN LANDS WITHIN THE STANISLAUS NATIONAL FOREST, CALIF.

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill (H. R. 374) to authorize the adjustment and clarification of ownership to certain lands within the Stanislaus National Forest, Tuolumne County, Calif., and for other purposes.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the present consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the bill was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

SIMPLIFICATION OF WORK OF THE FOREST SERVICE

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (H. R. 1855) to amend the act approved April 24, 1950, entitled "An act to facilitate and simplify the work of the Forest Service, and for other purposes."

WRITTEN REGULATION ESSENTIAL TO PREVENT WASTE OF PUBLIC MONEY

Mr. O'MAHONEY. Mr. President, I shall take the opportunity, while H. R. 1855 is the unfinished business, to remark that when the head of a great agency like the Foreign Aid Administration, now the ICA, undertakes to spend by "oral guidelines" the money which Congress has appropriated for foreign aid, the time has come for Congress to put a much firmer control upon the expenditure of public funds by the executive branch of the Government. Waste is unavoidable when there are no written regulations for public expenditure.

I have heard many wild tales in the past about reckless expenditures in previous administrations; but never before have I heard a prominent member of the executive branch confess that his predecessor had expended hundreds of thousands of dollars under oral guidelines, and oral guidelines alone.

I call this matter now to the attention of the Senate and of the country because we are about to consider the huge foreign-aid program requested by the President, a program which authorizes, or would ask the Congress to authorize, a 10-year program of expenditures for

projects of various kinds throughout the world.

If oral guidelines can be laid down by former Governor Stassen under the ICA program, then oral guidelines can be laid down under the 10-year program. It is essential that Congress, in the protection of the money of the people of the United States, should be certain that there shall be no more mere "oral guidelines," but that the rules and regulations shall be explicit and shall be made public, or at least shall be presented to Congress.

SIMPLIFICATION OF WORK OF THE FOREST SERVICE

The Senate resumed the consideration of the bill (H. R. 1855) to amend the act approved April 24, 1950, entitled "An act to facilitate and simplify the work of the Forest Service, and for other purposes."

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the present consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the bill was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

WATER CONSERVATION PRACTICES

The bill (H. R. 7236) to amend section 8 (B) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act with respect to water conservation practices was announced as next in order.

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. President, may we have a brief explanation of the bill?

Mr. ELLENDER. The bill simply would permit payments to be made under the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act for water-conservation practices in the humid areas as well as the arid and semiarid areas. After studies which were made, the Department of Agriculture reached certain conclusions, as follows:

At the time the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act was adopted by Congress, water problems and the desirability of water-conservation measures were presumed to be limited to the arid and semiarid States lying generally west of the 100th meridian. In recent years it has become increasingly obvious that water conservation is the concern not only of the Western States but of the whole United States.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection to the present consideration of the bill?

There being no objection, the bill was considered, ordered to a third reading, read the third time, and passed.

AMENDMENT OF INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1954

The Senate proceeded to consider the bill (H. R. 6712) to amend section 1237 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, which had been reported from the Committee on Finance with amendments, on page 1, line 7, after the word "business", to insert "and only in the case of property described in the last sentence of subsection (b) (3)", and on page 2, to strike out lines 1 and 2, and in lieu thereof, to insert:

(a) In subparagraph (A) strike out "water or sewer facilities" and insert: "water, sewer, or drainage facilities".

The amendments were agreed to.

The amendments were ordered to be engrossed and the bill to be read a third time.

The bill was read the third time and passed.

TRANSFER OF CERTAIN AMOUNTS FROM UNCLAIMED PAYMENTS ON UNITED STATES SAVINGS BONDS

The bill (S. 3422) to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to transfer certain amounts from unclaimed payments on United States savings bonds to the fund created for the payment of Government losses in shipment was considered, ordered to be engrossed for a third reading, read the third time, and passed, as follows:

Be it enacted, etc., That section 2 of the Government Losses in Shipment Act, as amended (50 Stat. 479; 5 U. S. C. 134a), is amended by adding at the end thereof the following new sentence: "The Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed to transfer on the books of the Department of the Treasury to the account of the fund an amount not to exceed \$500,000 from the account on such books entitled 'Unclaimed Partial Payments on United States Savings Bonds'."

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD, following the passage of Calendar No. 1731, S. 3422, a statement in explanation of the bill.

There being no objection, the statement was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

STATEMENT BY SENATOR BYRD

The Government has a losses in shipment fund which was established on the books of the Treasury on July 8, 1937, in accordance with the Government Losses in Shipment Act, whereby the Government assumed the risk in its shipment of valuables, including money, bullion, and securities. By the act of April 12, 1943, this fund was made available for the replacement of any losses resulting from payments made in connection with the redemption of savings bonds. As of December 31, 1955, the balance of the fund was \$178,000. Since the fund, under the act of April 12, 1943, is made liable for losses in connection with the purchase of savings bonds, and it is estimated there will be \$106,000 of such losses as a charge to the fund, the balance in the fund will amount to \$72,000. However, since there are in the account "Unclaimed partial payments on United States savings bonds" about \$700,000, representing payments by employees of private corporations under the payroll-savings plan, the bill authorizes the Secretary to transfer \$500,000 from this account to the Government losses in shipment-recovery fund. This will make it unnecessary for the Treasury to seek an appropriation from Congress to replenish this fund and will still leave \$200,000 in the account "Unclaimed partial payments on United States savings bonds," which is more than sufficient to meet all anticipated claims in that account.

Mr. BYRD. Mr. President, the report on the bill just passed, as printed, contains an error in a date. I ask unanimous consent that the corrected report be printed at this point in the RECORD.

There being no objection, the corrected report, Report No. 1706, was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

REPORT (TO ACCOMPANY S. 3422)

The Committee on Finance, to whom was referred the bill (S. 3422) to authorize the Secretary of the Treasury to transfer certain amounts from unclaimed payments on United States savings bonds to the fund created for the payment of Government losses in shipment, having considered the same, report favorably thereon without amendment and recommend that the bill do pass.

GENERAL STATEMENT

This bill will authorize and direct the Secretary of the Treasury to transfer, not to exceed \$500,000, from the account "Unclaimed partial payments on United States savings bonds" to the Government losses in shipment revolving fund.

The Government losses in shipment revolving fund was established on the books of the Treasury on July 8, 1937, in accordance with the provisions of the Government Losses in Shipment Act (5 U. S. C. 134-134h), whereby the Government assumed the risk on its shipments of valuables, including, money, bullion, and securities. This act authorized an initial appropriation of \$500,000 and annual appropriations of \$200,000 for each of the fiscal years 1939 to 1948, inclusive, making a total of authorized appropriations of \$2,500,000. Actual appropriations to the fund have amounted to only \$802,000. The balance of the fund as of December 31, 1955, was \$178,000. Additional appropriations will be required in the future unless other means of obtaining funds are provided.

By the act of April 12, 1943 (31 U. S. C. 757c (1)), the fund was made available for the replacement of any losses resulting from payments made in connection with the redemption of savings bonds. From October 1, 1944 to September 30, 1955, paying agents paid 1,269 million savings bonds aggregating \$55,177 million. There were only 65,237 bonds aggregating \$2,983,000 erroneously paid, in most cases, due to forgeries of the signatures of the owners of such bonds. Of this amount \$2,136,000 has been recovered from owners, paying agents, forgers, and others. Of the remaining \$847,000 the Government losses in shipment fund has been charged with \$494,000 and the amount of \$353,000 is in process of collection. Based on past experience, about 70 percent, or \$247,000, of the amount in process of collection will be recovered, which would leave the remainder, or about \$106,000, as a possible charge to the fund.

Funds in the account "Unclaimed partial payments on United States savings bonds" represents unclaimed partial payments on the purchase price of savings bonds made by employees of private corporations under the payroll savings plan. The Treasury agreed to accept these funds at the request of private corporations to enable the corporations to close these small accounts on their books. Since 1944 about \$746,000 has been received for credit to this account, representing about 148,000 individual accounts. This is an average of about \$5 for each account, and includes over 46,000 accounts of less than \$1 aggregating over \$17,000 which has been credited to miscellaneous receipts of the Treasury. To date claims paid from the fund have amounted to less than \$29,000. In the last 5 years claims have amounted to less than \$1,000 each year. There would remain a balance in this account of about \$200,000, after the transfer requested by this proposed legislation, which is considered sufficient to meet all anticipated claims.

Public Law 483 - 84th Congress
Chapter 186 - 2d Session
H. R. 7236

AN ACT

All 70 Stat. 105.

To amend section 8 (b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act
with respect to water conservation practices.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That the second sentence of section 8 (b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended (16 U. S. C., sec. 590h (b)), is amended by ^{52 Stat. 31.} striking out of said sentence "In arid or semiarid sections," and inserting in lieu thereof "Clauses".

Approved April 6, 1956.

